

# Water & Sea

by Linda M. Norton



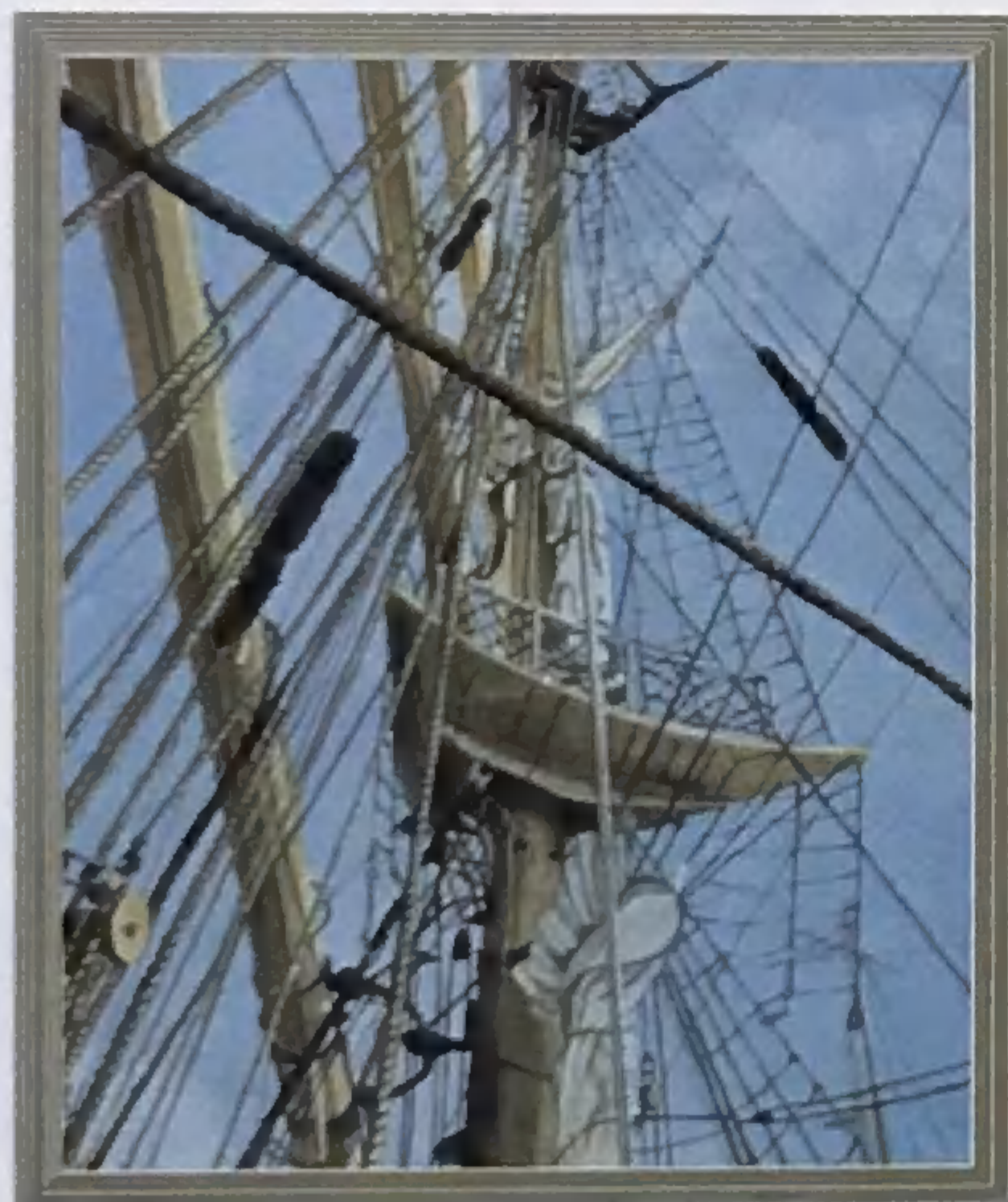
*After the Squall*, Watercolor 28" x 35"\* © 1996



*Tall Sails*, Watercolor 34" x 22"\*

© 1995

*The Crow's Nest*  
Watercolor  
16" x 20"\*



©1999



© 1999

*Atropus*,  
Watercolor 20" x 28"\*



*Rose in the Wake*,  
Watercolor 15" x 23"\* (SOLD)

© 1999

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Attuned to the beauty of nature and the constantly changing weather of Penobscot Bay on the Maine coast, Linda Norton paints what she sees and feels. A self taught artist, her traditional realism uniquely captures the "moments in time" that inspire her art.

Linda grew up in Portland, Connecticut, spending most of her summers in Camden, Maine where she learned to appreciate the ocean. Working in semi-transparent watercolors, Linda captures the softness of mist shrouding the bay, the sharp lines of rigging, the contrasts of life by the sea. Although her first love is watercolor, she also paints murals and teaches faux finishing and decorative painting techniques.

Linda is a member of the East Hampton Art Association, and associate member of the American Society of Marine Artists and an Elected Artist Member of the Lyme Art Association. Linda is recognized by Who's Who in American Art and has work in private collections from Maine to Virginia. A prolific artist in a variety of subject matter, her studio is located in her home ~~Sundance Farm in Cobalt, Connecticut.~~ **CAMDEN, ME. RECENTLY ELECTED COAST GUARD ARTIST.**

\*Image Size

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Linda M. Norton

At age six Mom presented me with a small tin of watercolors a pad of paper and a glass of water and said, "Here, go paint". In doing so she opened my world to light and color and the excitement of learning to not just 'look' but truly 'see' what surrounded me. Mom was a student of Pratt Institute and the University of Boston and a great mentor. Throughout my life she exposed me to famous art and artists with museum visits in Connecticut in winter and Maine in summer. Summer was my favorite time and Maine my favorite place. My Uncle and Grandfather owned a boatyard in Camden and climbing over greased skids or fishing off the dock were daily activities. Learning to row and 'reading the weather' was expected. Although my formal art education stopped with graduation from Portland High School in Portland, CT., less formal education continues at every opportunity ; which includes starting each morning with an internet daily international art newspaper.

Throughout my life I have experimented with various art forms; pastels, clay, sculpting, murals, acrylics, faux finishes and, of course, watercolors. I find it is watercolors and realism to which I invariably return. Subject matter was and is whatever inspired me at that point in my life. As a child and young woman I was interested in horses and studied at equestrian schools in Ireland and England. The walls were covered with horses in every possible pose. As a wife and mother I worked in real estate and gave my clients pen & ink renderings of their new homes. After my daughters were grown, time permitted a stronger interest in art and I became an Elected Artist Member of the Lyme Art Association in Old Lyme, CT, and my local association in East Hampton, CT.

As my interest in exhibiting grew, works were accepted at juried shows nationally including The Salmagundi Club (New York), Audubon Artists (New York), Gallery West (Alexandria, VA) Hilton Head Art Association (Hilton Head, SC), Community Arts (Ridgewood, NJ), Coos Art Museum (Coos Bay, OR). As a USCG artist, I received the George Gray Award in 2001 for contributions to the Coast Guard Art Program. Over the years various other prizes have been awarded for individual works. In 2007, I was selected as the featured artist in the summer issue of "Sea History" (the magazine of the National Marine Historical Society). My painting of "Twelve Knots" was the cover illustration. Twelve Knots is one of a continuing series of marine works featuring the local Windjammers on which I sail at least once a year. This allows me to paint from the perspective of being on board. These are historic ships and I hope to record them all over a period of time so that they will not be lost to future generations. In the sense of achievements I feel that this is one of the most important missions I have decided to take on. To me it is the moment that I complete my last stroke that the painting and the perspective of the boat in it become history.

Moving to my grandparent's house in Camden in 2000 put me in the midst of the Maine coast and I was finally 'home'. Surrounded by ships and the sea I rediscovered my childhood love of this place and my nautical heritage.